MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know who the interested people are?

MR. S. SESHA AIYAR: People owning lands through which the road is proposed to be taken.

Public wells.

38. *MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the wells hereunder noted were sunk by the P. W. Department;

(*b*) whether water is available in any and in which of them;

(*c*) whether any improvement could be effected to any or all of them so that they may serve the purpose for which they were intended;

(*d*) whether any of them is completely dry;

(*e*) if so, the reason for the same; and

(*f*) whether any responsible officer inspected these wells before paying the final bills of the contractors to whom the work of sinking these wells had been entrusted by the Department?

Wells.

1. Well at Eraviputhurkada Muslim Village, Attoor Pakuthy
2. Well at Eraviputhur kada Vellala Village
3. Well at Vellicode near Mulagumudu (M. S. Road)
4. Well at Azahiamandapam junction
5. Well at Neyyoor Mangalavadie Paul Street (Colachel Pakuthi)
6. Well at Ammandivillay (on the Muttam Road)
7. Well at Alloor Muslim Street (Alloor Pakuthy)
8. Well at Vellachivillay Sambavar village near Vellukuri
9. Well at Kattathuraie (north of the Kattathuraie Government School)
10. Well at Kumarapuram Valiavillay on the Thuckalai-Kulasekarem Road
11. Well at Kotticode Market; and
12. Well at Manalikarie Market.

MR. S. SESHA AIYAR: (*a*) Yes, except items 2 and 4.

(*b*) Yes except in items 4 and 12.

(*c*) No. 6 could be improved. As regards the others, improvement is only a question of trial at heavy cost.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Heavy drought.

(*f*) Yes.

Circular to the Managers of Private Schools.

39. *MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Education Department has recently (in Medom 1114) issued a circular to the Managers of Private Schools stating that grants-in-aid will be withheld for classes whose working

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[Mr. Kottalil P. Abraham.]

days fall below 15 days a month or whose daily attendance falls below 75 per cent. and

(*b*) whether the circular is given any retrospective effect, and if so, from what date?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: (*a*) No.

(*b*) This does not arise.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: With reference to answer to Part (*a*), am I to understand that a circular like the one intended in my question was not issued to the managers of private schools?

PRESIDENT: In view of the public interest for this question the best plan would be for the Director of Public Instruction to explain whether there was a circular and, if so, what the idea was.

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: During the student strike in August and September School managements were informed that unless they kept normal conditions of work and worked all the days they had included in their Calendars their grants would be withheld. In explaining that provision I subsequently informed the Inspectors that that provision practically meant that in the case of grant-in-aid schools whose grants are paid monthly and quarterly these restrictions should be applied from Chingom 1114 because instructions have been issued during August and September 1938. In the case of Maintenance grants for the whole year the orders were to be given effect to from the commencement of the school year 1939-1940.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI (*Tovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Am I correct in inferring that that circular was issued because private managers were conniving such strikes?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: No circular was issued.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Am I correct in inferring that managers of private instititions were conniving at such strike?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: There was reason to suspect that some did so.

Circular to Managers of Private Schools.

40. ❊ **MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM**: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the circular which the Education Department has recently (in Medom 1114) issued to the Managers of Private Schools stating that grants-in-aid will be withheld for classes whose working days fall below 15 days a month or whose daily attendance falls below 75 per cent.?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: No circular was issued on the subject to the Managers of private schools by the Director.

Street lighting in Nagercoil.

41. ❊**MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR**: (*Tovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether at any time in 1114 the electric street lighting was stopped in Nagercoil town for 10 or 15 days consecutively as a result

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